

NEBRASKA STATE FIRE MARSHAL OFFICIAL INTERPRETATION



Interpretation Number: 98-04

Date: 7-04

Pamphlet Number: NFPA 101, 2000

Sections: 16.6.2.4.2, 16.6.2.4.3,
16.6.2.4.4

Comments:

This interpretation applies to new day-care homes only. Previously approved homes are acceptable at the discretion of the authority having jurisdiction.

Question: How many and what types of exits are required in new Day-Care Homes that are occupied by at least three but not more than twelve clients?

Response: Two Means of Escape are required from every room used for sleeping, living and dining in Group and Family Day-Care Homes.

A means of escape provides access to the exterior via a door or an appropriately sized window. An easily operable side-hinged or sliding door is acceptable. A trap door, attic scuttle or secured door that can only be opened with special tools is not acceptable. A window must provide a clear opening of 20 inches in width, 24 inches in height and at least 5.7 square feet in area to be acceptable. The bottom of the window can be no more than 44 inches above the floor level. A window well or other approved arrangement shall be provided. The window well shall have a clear opening of at least 9 square feet, with a length and width of not less than 36 inches. When the window well depth is more than 44 inches, a ladder that does not encroach into the window well by more than 6 inches shall be provided. The ladder shall not obstruct operation of the window.

Where the floor above the level of exit discharge (LED) is used for a group day-care home (7 to 12 clients), or a basement is used for 4 to 12 clients, at least one exit consisting of a stair or door that opens directly to the exterior shall be provided. The second means of escape is permitted to be an approved window or interior stair.

The exit shall be a door opening directly to the outside, or the exit shall be permitted to be an interior stair if the stair is enclosed with a 20 minute fire rated door at the LED and the stair has a door opening directly to the outside at the LED.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Title: Dennis C. Hohbein, State of Nebraska Fire Marshal